ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2008



Smith Creek Parkway Temporary Impact Sites New Hanover County TIP No. U-92A and B CAMA permit No. 178-00



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SUMMARY

The Smith Creek Parkway temporary impact sites (U-0092A & B) are located in New Hanover County. This is an annual report for the four temporary impact sites associated with the construction of the Smith Creek Parkway. The sites were completed in April 2006.

The temporary impacts encompass approximately 0.558 acres. The areas that were impacted are being monitored to ensure that it re-attains wetland jurisdictional status. No hydrologic monitoring is required for these sites; however, vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

It was previously reported that the temporary impacts totaled 1.2 acres. This was due to the fact that we were monitoring temporary impacts and mechanized clearing areas. After further review please note that the temporary impacts encompass approximately 0.558 acres due to temporary fill placed in wetlands. The areas that were impacted are being monitored to ensure that it re-attains wetland jurisdictional status. Hydrologic monitoring is not required for this site; however, vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

After the third year of monitoring, the Smith Creek Parkway temporary impact sites show by visual observation that the temporarily impacted areas are reattaining wetland jurisdictional status.

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Smith Creek Parkway sites

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Smith Creek Parkway temporary impact sites (U-92A & B) are located in New Hanover County. This is an annual report for the four temporary impact sites associated with the construction of the Smith Creek Parkway (Figure 1).

1.2 Purpose

In order for a temporarily impacted site to be considered successful, the site must re-attain wetland jurisdictional status. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2008 at the four Smith Creek Parkway sites. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for these sites.

1.3 Project History

April 2006 Project Completed

May 2006 Vegetation Monitoring (1 year)

June 2007 Vegetation Monitoring (2 year)

September 2008 Vegetation Monitoring (3 year)

2.0 VEGETATION: SMITH CREEK PARKWAY SITE (YEAR 3 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

Due to the possibility that compaction, mechanized clearing, and/or other site alterations might prevent the temporary wetland impact area from re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status, the permittee shall provide an annual update on the wetland areas temporarily impacted by this project. This annual update will consist of photographs and a brief report on the progress of the temporarily impacted areas. After three years of monitoring, the permittee shall schedule a field meeting with DCM, DWQ, and WRC to determine if the temporarily impacted areas have re-attained jurisdictional wetland status. If at the end of three years the area has not re-attained jurisdictional wetland status, NC DCM and the above listed agencies shall determine whether a compensatory wetland mitigation plan will be required.

2.2 Description of Species

There were no species planted for the temporary impacts. The temporarily impacted areas were left to revegetate naturally.

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

The temporary impact areas are revegetating as seen from the 2007 to 2008 site photos. Photo numbers and site numbers correspond from year to year with each report. U-92B Site 5 had 0.01 acres of temporary impacts. This site had not been previously reported but, a photo of this site is included with this report. Species noted in temporary impact areas are as follows: black willow, sycamore, phragmites, baccharis, red maple, cattail, wax myrtle, fennel, pokeberry, tulip poplar, and other various wetland species.

2.4 Conclusions

There were approximately 0.558 acres of temporary impacts on site. By visual observation Smith Creek Parkway temporary impact sites show that natural revegetation is occurring and that the impacted areas are re-attaining jurisdictional wetland status.

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to discontinue vegetation monitoring at the Smith Creek Parkway sites.

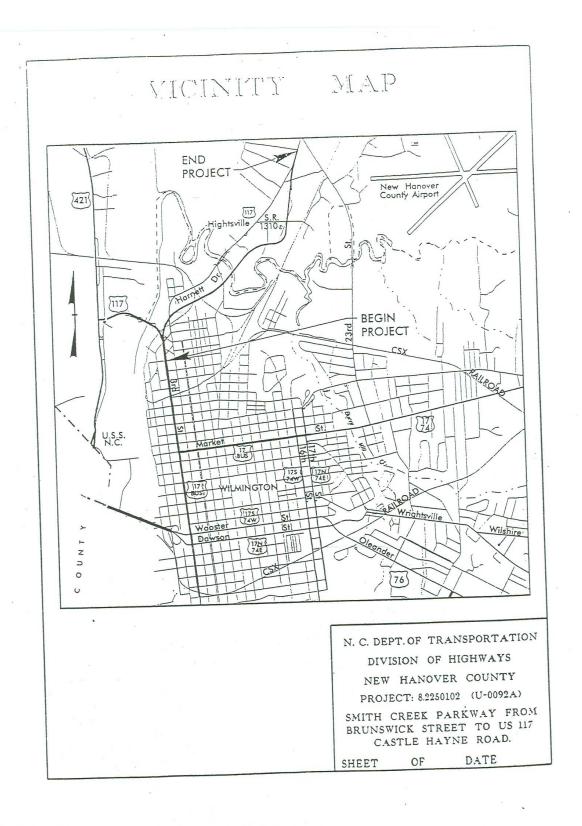


Figure 1. U-0092A Vicinity Map

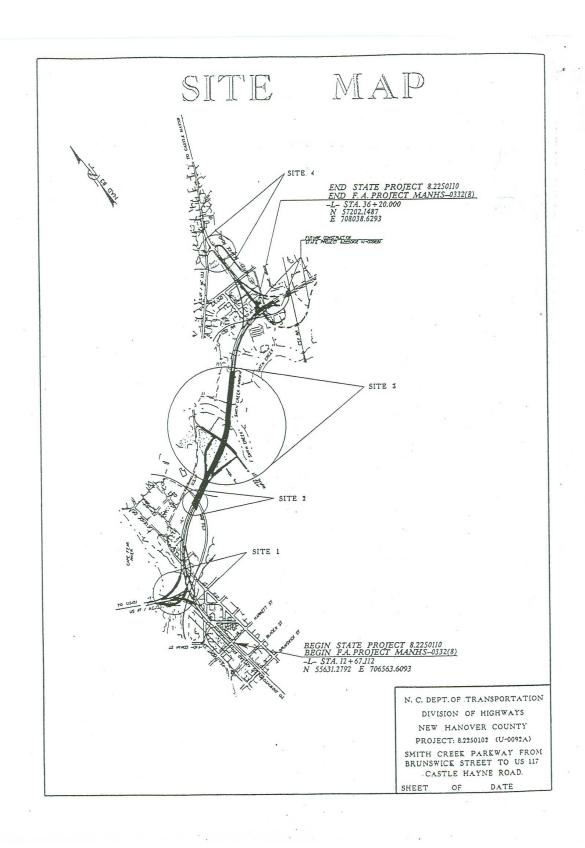


Figure 2. U-0092A Site Locations Map

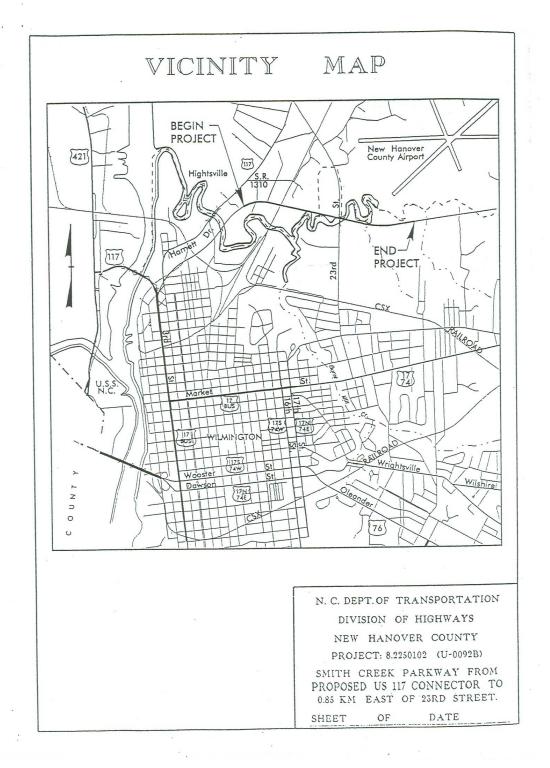


Figure 3. U-0092B Vicinity Map

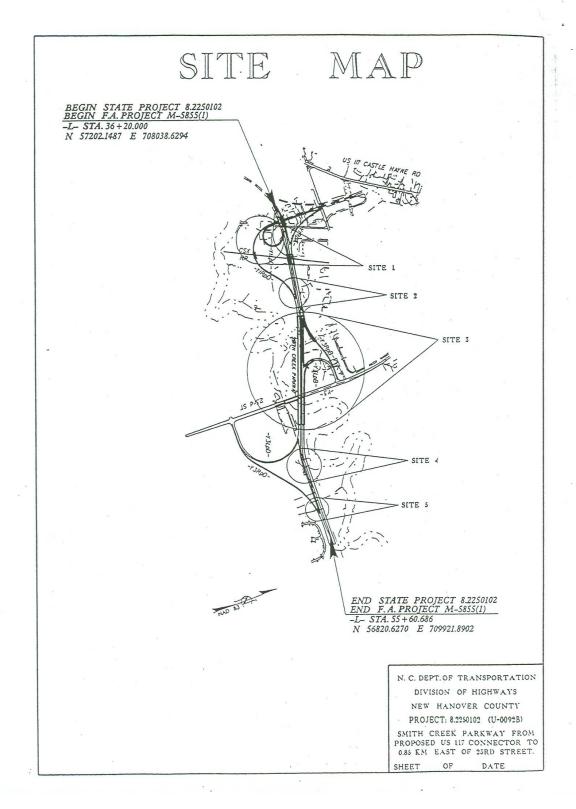


Figure 4. U-0092B Site Locations Map

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS

Smith Creek Parkway

U-92A



Photo 1 (U-92A Site 1)



Photo 5 (U-92A Site 3)

September 2008



Photo 2 (U-92A Site 1)



Photo 6 (U-92A Site 3)

Smith Creek Parkway

U-92B



Photo 9 (U-92B Site 3)



Photo 10 (U-92B Site 3)



Photo 11 (U-92B Site 3)



Photo 12 (U-92B Site 3)



Photo 13 (U-92B Site 3) September 2008



Photo 14 (U-92B Site 5)